Del rechazo a políticas antiinmigrante, al rechazo del Proyecto Esencia Energía y huracanes

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From IRAN to GAZA to LOS ANGELES

Mobilize to Stop U.S. War

By Sharon Black

June 22 — On Saturday, June 21, the U.S. military carried out a direct act of war on the people of Iran. According to Trump's Truth Social, "A full payload of BOMBS was dropped on the primary site, #Fordow." Missile strikes were also launched on Natanz and Esfahan.

It's reported that the U.S. military dropped 14 of its new GBU-57 "bunker buster bombs," each weighing 30,000 lbs. This is the first time this bomb has been used, and it is the successor to the "Mother of All Bombs," the GBU-43, which was used in Afghanistan in 2017.

The deployment of massive "bunker buster" bombs, Tomahawk cruise missiles, and the mobilization of U.S. naval fleets, air squadrons, and ground forces in the region is not just a war buildup — it's a deliberate act of imperialist intimidation. Washington's message is clear: Any people in West Asia who dare to take control of their own resources or chart an independent path will face the full wrath of the U.S. war machine. This is the iron fist of the military-industrial complex, reminding the oppressed that empire — not self-determination — rules.

U.S. bombs; China builds

Representatives of the Iranian government and its military have correctly pointed out that the U.S. has acted illegally and that the Iranian people have a right to defend themselves against both U.S. and Israeli acts of war.

As we said in earlier articles, this war has nothing to do with so-called nuclear weapons. Like the pretext for war on Iraq, there are no "weapons of mass destruc-

Continued on page 8

SLL Photo

Iran to Palestine, Stop U.S. War Crimes!'

ICE OUT NOW!

Iran's right to self-defense

Bilal Abdullah, was a beloved produce vendor who used horse-drawn carts in Baltimore. He was killed by police on June 17, 2025.

L.A. above
SLL photo:, L.A.: Lev Koufax
NYC, left.
SLL Photo: Steve Milliers

End fascist trans panic NOW!

Intersections & Crossroads, the Struggle for Self Determination

Populist smokescreen: How both parties serve monopoly capital

No Kings: 200,000+ Los Angelenos protested Trump and ICE

By Lev Koufax

June 14, Los Angeles – the overwhelming message of the crowd at "No Kings" protest was to end ICE raids, military occupation of L.A., and Trump's anti-immigrant policies. SLL photos: Lev Koufax

On June 14, over 6 million people across the United States marched as part of the "No Kings" day call to action against Donald Trump. One of the largest "No Kings" demonstrations took place in Los Angeles, California. The crowd swelled to over 200,000 people at its height, but tens of thousands remained downtown demonstrating into the evening.

No Kings in L.A. began in the wake of a week-long rebellion by the broader Los Angeles community against ICE raids and mass deportations. Tired of fascist terror against their communities, Angelinos confronted the federal and local police forces responsible for enforcing Trump's fascist, xenophobic agenda. For days, militant demonstrations shut down downtown Los Angeles and caused substantial disruption throughout Los Angeles County.

Throughout this struggle, Struggle-La Lucha writers and Harriet Tubman Center activists were on the ground at the various demonstrations, not only to cover the community's rebellion against racism but also to be in solidarity with that rebellion. This was no different on No Kings Day. The Harriet Tubman Center was in attendance at not only the L.A. No Kings demonstration, but also the "Queers Against Deportations" march and rally in West Hollywood.

L.A.'s No Kings Day demonstration saw a convergence of working-class forces. A substantial portion of the crowd was demonstrably Democratic Party aligned in outlook. This group's signs and slogans were more likely to focus on constitutional issues, such as executive overreach and due process. A significantly larger portion of the crowd consisted of various Latinx, immigrant, Black, and working-class communities that had been in the streets all week.

The overwhelming message of the crowd was still to end the ICE raids, end the military occupation of L.A., and end Trump's anti-immigrant policies. As the day progressed, the crowd's size shrank but its militancy grew. The community wanted to continue to march through downtown with their anti-ICE slogans and Mexican flags. Mayor Karen Bass, the LAPD, and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department felt otherwise.

In response to the continued demonstrations from the community late into the day, the fascist LAPD created roadblocks and began advancing columns of heavily armoured riot police at the protestors. As the protesters refused to back down, the LAPD escalated with dangerous crowd control weapons like tear gas, flash bang grenades, pepper balls, and rubber bullets. Mounted police also began beating random demonstrators with nightsticks. The LAPD acted this way even though many children and families remained at the demonstrations. Mothers were seen covering their children's eyes and ears as the LAPD deployed flash bangs and tear gas canisters into the crowd.

The working class, and particularly the Latinx community, is under siege in Los Angeles and across this country. These communities are facing Gestapo-tier violence, and they are justified in their complete and utter resistance. Fascism has no validity because it is simply another capitalist ideology. Capitalism has no validity because it is the ideology of only a few billionaires, and the only true social validity can come from the masses of workers.

Oppressed and working-class communities were justified when they defended themselves at No Kings Day from LAPD provocation. Those same communities were justified when they rebelled against Gestapo deportations that tore families apart.

The role of revolutionaries and all progressives has to be to stand alongside these communities when they rebel against racism and then organize for working-class power once the rebellion is over. That is why Struggle-La Lucha and the Harriet Tubman Center were on the ground in Los Angeles on No Kings Day and beyond.

All progressive organizations must come to the defense of and be in solidarity with working-class communities that find themselves in fascism's sights. #

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Community shuts down ICE contractor in St. Rose, La., after hearing blitz

By Gregory E. Williams

June 15, St. Rose, Louisiana — Right now, people are posted up at the St. Rose office of BI Incorporated, standing up for immigrants after organizers with Unión Migrante put out a call.

BI is a surveillance company tracking immigrants for ICE. The private prison corporation GEO Group acquired it in 2011. The government uses BI to run its Intensive Supervision Appearance Program (ISAP) to monitor immigrants, all part of the vast web of private contractors — including tech giants — making big bucks off government repression.

This local BI office sent out messages at 8:00 last night to a lot of people, ordering them to show up for a Father's Day check-in. This was highly unusual, according to organizers familiar with BI. They said the office isn't open on Sundays and immigration lawyers normally wouldn't be working. Plus, it's Father's Day.

Suspecting an ICE sting, they called for the community to show up for defense. Several children were among those who showed up. They weren't passively attending with family. They created their signs on site and discussed ICE and immigration.

Stopping ICE in Louisiana! SLL photo

Despite the anticipated blitz, witnesses said the office only managed to process one person this morning. He was seen going through the front entrance, but his current whereabouts are unknown. It's possible that he was driven out from the back of the building to an ICE facility in New Orleans or elsewhere.

Since the community came out, operations appear to be shut down. Throughout the day, some immigrants who had received messages through the BI group's app came to the office but found it locked up.

This fits a pattern seen in Los Angeles and elsewhere. ICE Nazis are like cockroaches operating in the shadows. When you shine light on them, they scatter.

Actually, I respect roaches, as all life holds intrinsic value. They are ancient, resilient creatures, part of the evolution of life in nature.

ICE and its affiliates, on the other hand, serve no purpose except to divide up and repress the working class. They do this on behalf of the filthy rich oligarchs like Jeff Bezos and Elon Musk. We don't need them. This whole deportation and detention apparatus drags us all down.

Consider that 75% of Trump's "big beautiful bill" is for the military, ICE, and other violent, repressive entities. Meanwhile, they're cutting health care and anything that meets people's needs. Here's the "waste and abuse" we should be worried about!

Every dollar spent to deport our immigrant siblings is a dollar that could feed a hungry child. Every dollar spent to bomb people in Gaza is a dollar that could house our seniors, who are homeless in record numbers. We don't need these deportations, and sure as hell don't need war on Iran!

Wherever we were born, let's stand together, because our enemies are the same.

Up with the people!

Down with Trump! Down with ICE!

Free, free Palestine! #

No to a $3 transit fare!

By Struggle-La Lucha New York bureau

New Yorkers say the 'fare ain't fair'

New York, June 25 — Activists rallied this morning in front of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's skyscraper headquarters in lower Manhattan. They protested the MTA's plan to hike the Big Apple's transit fare to $3 on Aug. 1.

That's 60 times what it cost to ride a bus, streetcar or subway back in 1948. It amounts to a weekly $30 transportation tax for workers just going to and from their jobs five days a week.

The action was called by the Fare Ain't Fair campaign initiated by the December 12th Movement. Speakers from D12, the New York Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, the Party for Socialism and Liberation, and Struggle-La Lucha newspaper attacked the $3 fare as another cutback for poor and working people.

They pointed out that MTA is a cash cow for banks and wealthy investors, who are slurping up $2.8 billion in tax-free interest annually. It's estimated that by 2028, the MTA will be $60 billion in debt.

It's to protect these bondholders that thousands of cops are in the subways, arresting poor people for allegedly jumping turnstiles.

Mike Quill — the founder of the Transport Workers Union — once called for the fare to be free. Activists are hoping that NYC mayoral candidate Zohran Mamdani, who is campaigning to freeze rents, and free bus fare will also demand a rollback in the subway fares

Later that day, MTA Chairman Janno Lieber announced that the fare would not be increased on August 1, as originally planned, but would take effect later in the year. Lieber — whose salary was $400,999 in 2023 — doesn't have to worry about paying any fare.

This shows that the MTA fears the power of the people. It's time to increase the pressure. The fare ain't fair! #

Capitalist crisis and the attack on

By Gregory E. Williams

*In May, the Struggle for Socialism Party (SSP) Los Angeles branch discussed the new book, **"Against fascism: reclaiming populism's legacy for today's class struggle,"** compiled by Louisiana socialist Gregory Williams.*

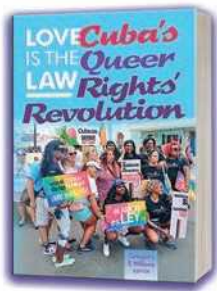
Following is the first presentation of the final class on the trans struggle. Melinda Butterfield gave the second presentation.

Maggie Vascassenno: Today is our fourth in the four-part series on the book, ***"Against fascism: reclaiming populism's legacy for today's class struggle"*** by Gregory Williams.

And we have Gregory here, along with Melinda Butterfield. Melinda led the first national mobilization against this current wave of trans hate, taking place in one of the states at the epicenter of the attacks, Florida. And that was Oct. 7, 2023, so it kind of got lost in the shuffle a little bit.

We weren't able to expand on it a lot then, but this is definitely a struggle that is really the focus of much of this fascist presidency. And Melinda organized a trip to Cuba of LGBTQ folk that learned there about how Cuba has advanced on the trans question and other LGBTQ+ questions, and really the question of families in general – family law.

So out of that came the book that Gregory put out called ***"Love is the Law: Cuba's queer rights revolution."*** I'll turn this over to Gregory.



Gregory Williams: Since this is the final class, I'll start with a summary of the book and where we've been. Then I want to open up some questions about the current trans struggle. Melinda will tell us more.

The book started with me writing about what was going on with governors like Ron DeSantis in Florida and Jeff Landry in Louisiana, in retrospect, leading up to Trump's re-election.

I tried to expose what they're really trying to do when they attack trans people or immigrants. Who do they really represent? And we tried to show in the book that they represent the rich ruling class and what they're doing is fundamentally against the interests of the vast majority.

We looked at the question "what is populism?" because that word is used a lot. Almost every time I see a political commentary, somebody uses this word. And there's no explanation usually. You have to really go out of your way to find any explanation of what the hell populism was historically.

They call people like Donald Trump a populist. And then they turn around and call somebody like Bernie Sanders a populist. Or even somebody who's doing grassroots work for the people. So how could that be the same thing? How could somebody like Trump, who's so clearly part of the ruling class and for the ruling class, how could that be the same as somebody who's progressive, like the real movement organizers?

The original populist movement happened in the late 1800s, largely centered around farmers. And there was a large Black populist movement as well. It wasn't just a white thing. The movement was overall anti-racist, and they were taking on the big monopolies developing at that time, as well as rich Southern landowners. They fought the big bank monopolies, the big industrialists, the people that farmers were indebted to, and so on.

They also tried to link up with organized labor, which was developing at that time. However, it was before the wave of socialist revolution that came to a head in 1917 with the Bolshevik Revolution and spread, not immediately, but through the anti-colonial, often socialist-oriented movements during and after World War II.

The populist movement was before that social wave. But later on, by the 1950s, some historians began using the word populism without any reference to this original historical progressive movement, and they would call fascism populism.

And words change, but it's a very political change because with this confusion, they take away that history of struggle. We can't understand that history because it's been distorted, and we're trying to correct some of that through the book.

And I analyzed a pamphlet written in the 1970s by Vince Copeland, one of the founders of our political tendency. It's called ***"Black Labor and Southern Populism"*** and is included in the book. He was looking at these same questions because, in the early '70s, the media was calling the racist governor, George Wallace, a populist, and he was running for president.

They also called George McGovern a populist, and he was the centrist Democrat running against Wallace.

To me, "Black Labor" was really eye-opening. Copeland clearly spells out the interests of the rich, exposing why they make the attacks that they do.

Why trans panic?

How did the trans struggle come into the book? Because I was assembling a section on contemporary Southern governors and their attacks. We had just participated in this trans youth march in Orlando that Melinda helped initiate. She did a lot of pioneering work, just sounding the alarm about what was happening with this rising crescendo of trans panic.

What was happening in Florida really was sort of the snake's head. A lot of it was centered around what DeSantis was doing. So that action, I think, was really important, and we included a lot of the speeches from it in the book.

But a lot's transpired since then. It's gotten much worse. The trans panic has become a center of the fascist onslaught, and not just in the U.S. It's happening in Italy and Brazil and other places. The far right is leading it but "liberal" politicians like California Governor Gavin Newsome have taken it up, too. The same Democratic governor who's viciously attacked unhoused people.

Why are trans people such a target right now? Why is this so resonant for the right? Why is it working for them like this?

Oppressed people advance, and claws come out

I've started to make connections to other parts of the book. There's a lengthy section about how populism was defeated in Wilmington, North Carolina, in 1898. At that time, Wilmington was still bucking the trend against Jim Crow by having Black and white people in the government together.

Black people were also relatively prosperous there. They were in skilled trades. They had a Black-owned newspaper. The city was governed by a coalition between the populist People's Party and the Republican Party, which was still associated with the anti-slavery cause and had a strong Black base.

Wilmington was a beacon holding out against this onslaught of Jim Crow. The Democrats were still associated with the pro-slavery cause and were the party of the rich white ruling class in the South. They ultimately beat populism in Wilmington by organizing a White Supremacy Campaign. That's actually what they called it.

trans people

Hundreds marched in Orlando, Florida, on Oct. 7, 2023, during the National March to Protect Trans Youth and Speakout for Trans Lives.

They used all the media of the time, organizing groups throughout the state, arming Klan-type militias. They spent a lot of money, and it led to a massacre and a coup in Wilmington. That's how they took over the reins again and installed an all-white, totally racist, fascistic government.

Sexist dimension of fascist hysteria

But also, there was a big sexual dimension to it, because what precipitated the massacre – what was especially potent – were these speakers and the newspaper editorials whipping up hysteria about Black men sexually seducing or assaulting white women.

Of course, these patriarchal racists weren't concerned about women's consent. The idea was like, "Black men are taking our women." That's the idea. But doesn't this sound familiar? Because really, as far as I can tell, every fascist hysteria has this dimension to it.

The right wing says that queer and trans people are grooming children, seducing them into gender and sexual anarchy, so society must be protected.

In Britain right now, there is conspiratorial hysteria about immigrant "groomer gangs." Not to mention the retro "Satanic Panic" fantasies of Q Anon, centering around ritualised child abuse.

In India, the Hindu nationalists say Muslim men are seducing Hindu women, depleting the stock of the pure Hindu nation. And Trump and Musk are obsessed with fertility rates – white fertility rates.

So there's always a weird sex thing, as far as I can tell. And remember Comrade Gloria's presentation in this class series about lynchings and the murder of Emmett Till. They claimed that this 14-year-old flirted with a white woman. And why is that so explosive? Just the idea of that in a racist, capitalist society.

Class society requires policing identities

The Marxist tradition coming out of Frederick Engels' work in the late 1800s says that gender and sexual oppression come from the imposition of class society, which developed after the development of agriculture, in what is for us pre-history.

Once there was a surplus of food and goods, these conditions allowed some people to hoard the surplus and deny it to others. And this was the beginning of private property. Women's oppression grew out of that.

Because an earlier egalitarian, communistic society gave way to a patriarchal, very hierarchical one, men became dominant in this scenario. And when there was property to pass down, they had to determine paternity, which wasn't a factor before. They developed elaborate ways to control women and their sexuality.

I'm glad Bob McCubbin is on this Zoom call because he did pioneering work on this, writing about it back in the 1970s. So did Dorothy Ballan. That's what I'm drawing from.

I think that with systems of private property and that type of hierarchy, there's always going to be policing of identity. You have to know who you are, and you have to be able to put other people in a category.

When you have a society structured by racial oppression, you get anxiety about racial identity. You know, it's totally absurd, really, that people in the Jim Crow South were worried about who used what water fountain or what bathroom.

It's so ridiculous. But under that system, from the point of view of the ruling class, it made sense. Because when you're policing people and keeping them down, the dominant group is afraid all the time. And they say, "What if my daughter falls in love with a Black man and has a baby?"

It's this kind of status anxiety, fear of losing your status and falling down the rungs. I mean, not to mention the white slave-owning men – it's all sort of projection, isn't it? The white slave-owning men basically had harems and were committing all these sexual atrocities. So it's all fine for them to do. But they're paranoid that somebody's going to do the same thing to them.

So by that same token, people say, "what if my child is trans? Then what? What does that mean for me? What does that do to my identity?" And the right-wing media plays this up seven days a week. Look at Elon Musk's rejection of his trans daughter, Vivian, because he wants a son made in his own narcissistic vision as an heir. And Vivian has even stated that Musk used in vitro fertilization specifically to get boy children.

General crisis of gender and the family

So, I want to pose these general questions about gender and sexuality in our moment.

Because the trans panic is obviously very useful for the capitalists and the fascist politicians, and now the liberal ones emulating them. And to some extent, it doesn't really matter who they target. Any scapegoat, theoretically, can get the job done. You find a scapegoat, and you distract people from the real problems caused by capitalism.

On the other hand, why is targeting certain groups so effective in a particular period? The anti-trans people are totally obsessed. Like, they must wake up in the morning thinking about trans people. Get a life!

In part, yeah, that could be explained just in terms of the propaganda and grift-disinformation machine, the algorithms are pushing it, all the right-wing influencers say the same things, using the same buzzwords.

But as Marxists, we tend to look for answers deeper in social structures. And I wonder if the current obsession with trans people is not an accident. Trans people have made advances, becoming visible in society. We saw the same dynamic in the populist period. Black people had made advances. And the rich ruling class tried to claw everything back.

And I also think that, right now, there's a general crisis of gender and the family. That's part of the crisis of capitalism. I think that's part of this moment. And cisgender women – women who are not trans – they're intensely under attack. So, what's happening is all very gendered.

They're trying to roll back everything that women have won through struggle, like with the abortion bans. Take the "trad wife" influencers and all this stuff that the right-wing is pushing. [These are social media accounts promoting "traditional" housewife roles, really "a world that only ever existed in 1950s vacuum cleaner commercials," as

Continued on page 6

‘From Iran to Palestine, stop U.S. war crimes!’ Activists rally in New Orleans

SLL photos

By Gregory E. Williams

New Orleans, June 23 – “No war with Iran!” was the message of an emergency rally downtown during the evening rush hour. Gathered in the shadow of the Hale Boggs Federal Building, they chanted, “From Iran to Palestine, stop U.S. war crimes!” and “From the belly of the beast, U.S. out of the Middle East!”

These views are pretty mainstream. An Economist/YouGov poll covering June 13-16 asked people in the U.S., “Do you think the U.S. military should get involved in the conflict between Israel and Iran?” Sixty percent said “no.” Only 16% said “yes,” and 24% “not sure.” Even 53% of Republicans oppose direct U.S. intervention.

The problem with the wording of the question is that the U.S. is already involved, because Israel’s real masters are in the U.S. Pentagon. Still, these results are clear enough. The people don’t want war.

Today’s action featured speakers from multiple organizations, including the Palestinian Youth Movement, Freedom Road Socialist Organization, Party for Socialism and Liberation, and others.

Some participants came from other towns in the region, including the Northshore. One participant, a Slidell mom new to activism, told this writer:

“I came out because I believe we have a duty to show up when power is used to harm — not just in our own backyard, but across borders. In the face of war, silence is not neutrality — it’s surrender — and I came to stand for peace, not as a bystander, but as part of a global refusal to accept violence.” #

Capitalist crisis and the attack on trans people

Continued from page 5

a commenter said under one of their posts.]

And I think trans panic is tied up with the policing of women’s gender expressions, women in general. Just look at how they treated Algerian boxer, Iman Khalif. The transphobic writer, JK Rowling, recently tweeted, and this is really rich, “I’ve never attacked any woman for not being woman enough. That’s a concept that I don’t recognize.”

Then an X user named Thomas Willett responded, “You literally launched a campaign of abuse and hate against the female boxer, Iman Khalif.” Transphobia is deeply tied up with misogyny.

Men and boys socially alienated

And I think there’s a crisis of masculine identity in society too. Cis-men and boys are suffering from, for example, body dysmorphia like never before, seeing unattainable images of steroid-powered superheroes, and all these models with good lighting on Instagram.

And they’re also alienated and socially isolated. The algorithms push them to “manosphere” influencers like the sex trafficker Andrew Tate. This is what’s being offered to them to deal with their alienation and deep anxiety. And this goes all the way up to mass shooters.

So that’s happening, and I think it has to do with capitalism making life so unlivable. People can’t afford to own a home anymore. So the old nuclear family model that existed, maybe in the 1950s, for some people, even that is becoming unattainable. People don’t know what family life is supposed to be.

And it’s capitalism that’s doing this. We as revolutionaries aren’t saying you can’t have the kind of family you want, or you’re bad if your family looks more like the nuclear model, or you’re bad because your family doesn’t look like that.

Capitalism is making it hard for families to exist. And I think people are experiencing a lot of anxiety about what their role is. They don’t see a future for themselves. Then, coming out of that, there’s something very potent happening when these fascist influencers say, “I have an answer for you. The problem is feminism. The problem is trans people who are destroying the family.”

And if people don’t have an alternative from the left, then they are vulnerable to being pulled in that direction. They need to see an organized left that’s fighting, winning victories, and talking about a different kind of society, and explaining these things.

Continued on page 13

NYC says: Stop bombing Iran! End the genocide in Gaza!

By Struggle-La Lucha New York bureau

June 22 — Hundreds of people came to New York City's Times Square on a few hours' notice today to protest the U.S. bombing of Iran. Among the organizations that called the action were ANSWER, the National Iranian American Council, the Palestinian Youth Movement, Nodutdol for Korean Community Development, the Party for Socialism and Liberation, and the People's Forum.

Speakers denounced Trump and Netanyahu as war criminals who've killed more than 400 Iranians so far, as well as over 50,000 Palestinians. PSL's Sean Blackmon pointed out that the same U.S. ruling class that betrayed Reconstruction and imposed Ku Klux Klan terror on Black people is the same class that's attacking Iran.

Protesters took to the streets with signs, banners, and drums. Onlookers were friendly. They marched to the monument at 59th Street honoring the genocidal Christopher Columbus, where a brief rally was held.

Hundreds of people opposing war on Iran and genocide in Gaza marched from Times Square to Columbia University.

SLL photos

Later that day, many of the marchers welcomed Mahmoud Khalil, who had just been released after being jailed by ICE for 104 days. The Palestinian activist addressed people in front of St. John the Divine Cathedral

Protesters then marched to Columbia University, which was denounced for suspending students challenging the genocide in Palestine.

Activists are preparing more actions in New York City as well as a national march in Washington, D.C., on Saturday, June 28. Hands off Iran! #

Hands off Iran!' echoes off New York skyscrapers

By Struggle-La Lucha New York bureau

New York, June 18 — At least a thousand people came to the steps of the great reference library on Manhattan's Fifth Avenue this evening to stop the war on Iran. The emergency mobilization was part of a national day of action that saw dozens of protests from coast to coast.

Speakers at the rally included members of the Iranian community; the Palestinian Youth Movement; Nodutdol for Korean Community Development; The People's Forum; ANSWER Coalition; and the Party for Socialism and Liberation. They denounced the continuing genocide in Gaza and pointed out the lies being used by Trump and Netanyahu to justify their attacks on the 90 million people of Iran.

The United States is the only country in history to use nuclear weapons. Hundreds of thousands of people were killed in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, including over 30,000 Korean slave laborers.

In Times Square, New York City, a protest against the U.S.-Israeli war on Iran.

SLL photos

The Zionist apartheid regime occupying Palestine has already murdered hundreds of Iranians, including many children, by their unprovoked missile attacks. So-called Israel has an estimated arsenal of 80 nuclear weapons.

People marched through the posh East Midtown section of Manhattan carrying Palestinian and Iranian flags as well as signs and banners. Police barricaded Second Avenue to prevent marchers from confronting the Zionist mission to the United Nations. Friendly bystanders waved and took pictures of the protesters.

The demonstration ended up at Times Square, where a brief rally was held. Hands off Iran! #

War on Iran made in the U.S., Israel

Real goal is regime change to maintain U.S. global domination

By Sharon Black

Israel's missile strikes and internal sabotage against Iran, launched on June 13, were carried out with the full agreement of their U.S. masters in the Pentagon. The Israelis executed the attacks with direct help from U.S. intelligence technology. And following Iran's defensive counterattack, the U.S. has also helped Israel intercept missiles.

The Pentagon maintains troops in Iraq and the region. It's been reported that these troops are virtual sitting ducks, in harm's way with inadequate defenses, similar to how Israel's military targets are embedded in populated areas. Both of these things could provide a pretext for full-scale U.S. involvement.

What Washington's saying

Trump, Pete Hagseth and other U.S. officials have made contradictory statements. "Israel did this on their own," "No they didn't," "Yes they did." What's undeniable is that U.S. imperialism has put the world on a perilous road. This could develop not only into a regional war, but one with worldwide consequences.

On June 16, Trump refused to sign onto a very weak statement calling for de-escalation between Israel and Iran, prepared by the G7 at the summit in Alberta, Canada. Instead, he abruptly left the summit early.

When questioned by reporters on his Air Force One flight back, Trump stated, "I don't care what she said, I think they were very close to having it." (He was referring to National Intelligence Director Tulsi Gabbard, who stated Iran is not building a nuclear weapon). He continued, "Iran cannot have a nuclear weapon, it's very simple," and "I'm not too much in the mood to negotiate."

Trump has ratcheted up his rhetoric on social media, proclaiming, "Everyone should immediately evacuate Tehran!" Tehran is home to almost 10 million people.

Simultaneously, the Pentagon has repositioned warships and military aircraft in the region in preparation for possible U.S. escalation.

While Israel's sneak night attack caused damage to Iran, Iran was able to launch a counterattack, demonstrating that it could not be picked off so easily. (See: Iran was supposed to fold — instead, it's exposing U.S. & Israeli military limits.)

This brings us to the next, more dangerous stage. Will war now widen?

U.S. bombing of Iran sets the stage for wider war

Continued from page 1

tion." It is about regime change in Iran as part of a strategy of imperialist world domination aimed at thwarting the development of the Global South and containing Russia and China.

We can expect the Pentagon to continue down this road until it is stopped. It has already targeted military and political leaders, along with scientists inside Iran, and it has trumpeted the real possibility of attempts to murder Iran's religious leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei.

Trump & Netanyahu: Genocidal War Criminals

That this war has been launched in the midst of an active genocide of the Palestinian people cannot be ignored. Gaza health authorities report at least 202 Palestinians killed and 1,037 injured in Gaza in the last 48 hours due to ongoing Israeli actions. Since October 2023, they confirm 55,908 Palestinian fatalities and 131,138 injuries, primarily women and children. Not included in this account is the destruction of Syria, Lebanon or the catastrophic war on the people of Yemen.

Generals over the White House

The decaying, malignant, racist, anti-worker, anti-poor, anti-woman, transphobic and at times buffoonish cabal at the helm of the White House is in essence a product and reflection of the U.S. capitalist system which cannot provide quality of life for its own workers.

Instead of investment into health care, education, housing and all of the other things that the population desperately needs, including addressing the climate crisis, the vast wealth built on exploitation of the working class is being funneled into the war machine.

President Trump, standing at the podium with Vice President Vance, Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth, and Secretary of State Marco Rubio at his side at last night's announcement of the bombing of Iran, was meant to project a quasi form of legality to actions that were clearly in violation of the War Powers Act.

Trump was presenting himself as commander in chief (with full Pentagon backing), pushing aside Constitutional legalities, not even consulting with Congress — the only authority empowered to launch a war. Some have called Trump's move a coup, putting the military in charge of war policy.

The actual power resides with the Pentagon generals, executing the will of U.S. finance capital to shape war policy. Though appearances may shift, their core strategy has stayed unchanged, regardless of who sits in the White House.

Widening war and increased repression at home

Just before launching a war in West Asia, Trump deployed approximately 700 Marines alongside thousands of National Guard troops to Los Angeles in response to protests against ICE raids and kidnappings, putting the country's second-largest city under military occupation.

The assault extends beyond protesters to prominent labor leaders. David Huerta, President of the Service Employees International Union-United Service Workers West, was assaulted and violently detained by ICE. He was exercising his right to observe a raid at the Roybal Federal Building in Los Angeles. Huerta was charged with felony conspiracy to impede an officer, which carries a maximum sentence of six years in federal prison, and was hospitalized for injuries sustained during his arrest.

The Trump administration has arrested members of Congress and other public officials, including Newark Mayor Ras J. Baraka and Milwaukee County Circuit Judge Hannah Dugan. The escalation of violence against elected officials reached a new level when U.S. Senator Alex Padilla (D-California) was physically shoved, forced to the ground, and handcuffed by FBI agents during a Department of Homeland Security news conference with Secretary Kristi

Continued on page 9

is a U.S. proxy

Capitalist West using Iran's nuclear program as a ruse

There are no credible claims, even by Western capitalist sources, that Iran has actually built a bomb or is in the active process of doing so. As referenced earlier, Tulsi Gabbard, in March, stated that spy agencies assessed that "Iran is not building a nuclear weapon."

What has been reported in the mass media are sensationalized accounts from Israel, continuously repeated over and over. It echoes the fake accounts of "weapons of mass destruction" used by the U.S. to launch the destructive war on Iraq.

More importantly, what right do the U.S. imperialists have to make demands on the Iranian people, or their government, around Iran's right to possess nuclear defenses, let alone to develop nuclear energy?

June 14, Tehran, Iran – mass protests erupted with thousands denouncing U.S.-Israeli attacks.

The U.S. military is the only country to have actually used nuclear weapons on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Japanese were already planning to surrender when Truman ordered the U.S. military to drop the bombs that killed between 150,000 and 246,000 people, most of whom were civilians. This criminal act of unbelievable destruction was unleashed as a warning to the then Soviet Union.

The press is silent on Israel's nuclear weapons. This, despite declassified documents showing that, in 1975, Israeli Defense Minister Shimon Peres offered to sell them to South African Defense Minister P.W. Botha, during the white-supremacist apartheid regime's conflict with the ANC.

Real aim is regime change

Israel's cowardly act was meant to cause internal chaos, aimed at provoking division and regime change. It failed, and is not a new strategy.

In 1953, the U.S. government and the CIA, in collaboration with Britain, orchestrated a bloody coup to depose Iran's progressive and charismatic Prime Minister, Mohammad Mosaddegh. This action was taken to reinforce the rule of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. Under the Shah's regime, the infamous SAVAK (Bureau for Intelligence and Security of the State) became notorious for its torture and murder of students, workers, and opposition figures.

Mossadegh's real crime was the nationalization of the Abadan oil fields. The U.S State Department had wider fears that the actions of the Iranian people to take possession of their own resources would encourage the masses of the entire region.

U.S. bankers, oil barons and imperialist bosses had cause for concern. On July 26, 1956, Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal, asserting Egyptian sovereignty, which touched off war involving Israel, France and Britain.

Finally, in 1979, the Iranian Revolution brought the Shah's bloody rule to an end. Following the Shah's overthrow and the formation of the Iranian Republic, the imperialists have continually tried to destabilize the Iranian government, whether through color revolutions or with disabling sanctions aimed at creating internal divisions.

Root cause: U.S. imperialist decay and its world position

In a Nov. 14, 1979, article entitled "The Iranian crisis: the core of the problem," Marxist thinker Sam Marcy outlined the extent of the capitalist crisis during that period. He asserted that Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, the appointed Deputy Minister of Finance of Iran's new revolutionary government, went to the core of the problem.

Marcy wrote:

"In his letter to the United Nations Security Council requesting a meeting of that body, the new foreign affairs director of Iran, Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, made a scathing indictment of U.S. policy toward Iran and pointedly attacked the U.S. government for attempting to create a war psychosis against Iran and pushing the world to the brink of war.

"The imperialists tried to picture the complaint against U.S. war preparations as a mere diversionary tactic from domestic problems in Iran. While few if any of the capitalist press published the entire text of this important letter, which details all the criminal activities not only of the Shah but of the U.S. itself in relation to the Iranian people, none referred to what is truly the core of the broad problem facing American finance capital, which Bani-Sadr pointedly made reference to."

Marcy quotes Bani-Sadr:

"Mr. Secretary General," said Mr. Bani-Sadr, "I am well equipped because of my scientific knowledge to know that the weakness of the American economy (at the present) and the weak position of the dollar has forced on America a grave economic and political crisis.

"Is America trying to reestablish the position of its money by putting world peace in peril?"

While today's stakes are higher, the question remains the same. #

Noem at the Wilshire Federal Building in Los Angeles.

Workers and the world's oppressed masses must stop the war

We do not assert that military supremacy, either its technology or its destructive powers, is of no consequence or importance. But perhaps the U.S. and Western capitalists have forgotten the power that the masses are capable of wielding.

It should worry them that their immediate plans through proxy Israel on June 13, 2025, when they assassinated military leaders, scientists and civilians, did not result in regime change, but instead united the Iranian people. It appears that the U.S. military and its establishment have forgotten the lessons of the Vietnam War (and the many U.S. wars since then).

It was Huey P. Newton, Defense Minister of the Black Panther Party, who coined the slogan, "The spirit of the people is greater than the man's technology."

Just over a week ago, six million people took to the streets all across the country for the "No Kings" marches. Now, it's time for the working class in the U.S. to mobilize and remain in the streets until the Pentagon is stopped.

Marx revealed the truth: Workers are the engine of history. As capitalism morphed into imperialism, Lenin expanded this vision, rallying the world's workers and oppressed peoples to unite. #

Iran was supposed to fold — instead, it's exposing U.S. & Israeli military limits

By Gary Wilson

The U.S.-Israeli war on Iran is far from the decisive victory President Trump initially celebrated as "excellent." The swift tactical strike has failed, with Israel now begging the U.S. to send in more bombers and missiles.

With the U.S. Marines, Air Forces and Navy deployed to surround Iran and to assist the Israeli military, the opening strikes were brutal and unexpected. They targeted Iranian commanders, as they slept in their homes, to decapitate Iran's military leadership and paralyze its response.

President Donald Trump told the Wall Street Journal that he had discussed the planned attack with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on June 9, five days before it was launched. Trump, knowing the attack was imminent, scheduled nuclear talks with Iran for June 15 in Oman, leaving Iran to believe that there would be no attack as long as the talks continued.

For a brief moment, it seemed that the gamble by the U.S. Central Command, which had spent the last eight months planning the attack with the Israeli armed forces and providing the "intelligence" on targets in Iran, had paid off. Trump, eager to bask in the glow of apparent victory, rushed to claim credit — even as his own administration was trying to downplay any U.S. involvement.

But the illusion of U.S.-Israeli dominance was shattered within hours. Iran rapidly restructured its command, activated its air defenses, and unleashed a series of missile barrages that penetrated Israel's much-vaunted defenses, striking at the heart of Tel Aviv and even the Ministry of Defense. This swift and effective counterattack made clear that the initial success of the U.S.-armed Israeli military was fleeting and that the war would not be won with shock and awe. Tehran struck back hard and fast.

As the conflict has dragged on, U.S.-backed Israeli forces inflicted further devastation on Iran's infrastructure, targeting oil refineries and civilian sites. Yet Iran's retaliatory strikes only grew more effective, exposing the vulnerabilities of Israel's air defense systems. Despite heavy bombardment, Israel failed to destroy Iran's fortified nuclear facilities, limiting the impact on Tehran's nuclear program.

U.S.-Israeli war plan unravels

Ali Salehian, a senior researcher at the Governance and Policy Think Tank affiliated with Sharif University of Technology in Tehran, wrote in The Cradle on "why the shock strategy failed against Iran."

Tehran's rapid retaliation and deep strategic reserves have exposed the limits of U.S.-Israeli power.

First, Iran's military command is vast, experienced, and rapidly replaceable. "Brigadier General Abolfazl Shekarchi pointed to this capacity, dismissing assumptions that a few assassinations could cripple national defense."

Second, geography matters. Iran's sheer size allows the strategic dispersal of critical assets. U.S.-Israeli jets may have briefly penetrated key western nodes, but much of Iran's infrastructure remains embedded in its eastern and central territories. The state's military doctrine is built around such depth.

But perhaps the gravest misjudgment lay in the U.S.-Israeli reading of Iran's internal cohesion. The U.S.-Israeli planners appeared to have assumed a sudden external strike would activate opposition forces within Iran.

Salehian writes:

"Iran's political unity in the face of external threats has been repeatedly demonstrated. Even segments of society critical of the Islamic Republic have closed ranks when faced with foreign aggression. It is a nationalism forged not from state propaganda, but from the collective memory of wars, invasions, and isolation."

Israel begs for U.S. military escalation

Meanwhile, the U.S. is moving more Naval combat power into position alongside the U.S. destroyers helping shield Israel from Iranian missiles, Business Insider reports.

"A U.S. official, speaking on the condition of anonymity to discuss military movements, said the destroyer USS Thomas Hudner is now in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea, joining destroyers USS Arleigh Burke and USS The Sullivans, and additional warships could be heading that way.

"The official said Arleigh Burke and The Sullivans have, in recent days, launched missile interceptors in defense of Israel amid Iranian retaliatory attacks. It's unclear if there have been confirmed intercepts.

"The official said that in addition to sea-based air defense, the U.S. military also provided land-based support to Israel. This potentially involved the MIM-104 Patriot surface-to-air missile battery or the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, system."

"On June 17, President Trump abruptly left the G-7 summit amid speculation that the U.S. would join Israel in attacking Iran's nuclear program using bunker-buster bombs carried by B-2 bombers.

On June 21, recognizing that Israel's military alone couldn't secure a victory, Trump announced that U.S. forces, including B-2 bombers had struck Iran's peaceful nuclear energy sites. #

One Big Boom?

By Gary Wilson

On June 21, President Donald Trump announced that U.S. forces had struck Iran's three main nuclear sites — Natanz, Isfahan, and Fordow — claiming these facilities were "completely and totally obliterated." Trump described the operation as a "spectacular military success."

However, a leaked Defense Intelligence Agency report the next day, cited by CNN, contradicted this claim, stating that the airstrikes only set back Iran's nuclear program by several months, rather than destroying it entirely.

Reports from sources such as "Simplicius's Garden of Knowledge" on Substack suggest that the Trump administration informed Iran of the strikes through Swiss diplomatic channels, indicating the attack would be a one-off event if Iran did not retaliate. This approach mirrors Trump's 2017 Tomahawk missile strike on Syria, which was widely seen as more symbolic than destructive.

Vice President J.D. Vance and Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth emphasized that the operation was a single, limited action intended to disrupt Iran's nuclear program, not to pursue regime change.

Yet, Trump's subsequent social media post hinted at the possibility of regime change in Iran, stating:

"It's not politically correct to use the term, 'Regime Change,' but if the current Iranian Regime is unable to MAKE IRAN GREAT AGAIN, why wouldn't there be a Regime change??? MIGA!!!"

The military-industrial complex's false promises

Trump's unprecedented peacetime defense budget — 75% of the Big Beautiful Bill funnels into the Pentagon, Homeland Security (including 10,000 more ICE agents), and Veterans Affairs — reveals the true priority: militarism over social needs. While Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security face cuts, military R&D thrives, bankrolling everything from drone warfare to AI-driven combat systems.

This reflects a deeper capitalist delusion: that massive military spending can stave off economic crisis. Like a drug, it provides a temporary stimulant — absorbing industrial capacity and masking unemployment — but ultimately worsens the underlying sickness. As President Eisenhower warned in 1961, there is always a "recurring temptation to believe that some dramatic, costly action might magically resolve all current difficulties."

Two tendencies in the military

The first tendency — the one that appeals to Trump — is the belief in quick, spectacular strikes as solutions. But there is a second, more dangerous tendency: the faceless generals and admirals who see every operation as a potential prelude to wider war. Their plans, though couched in technical jargon, are deeply political, often designed to escalate rather than resolve conflicts.

The strikes on Iran could still spiral into full-scale war. Trump's rhetoric, combined with the military's institutional drive for expansion, means "regime change" remains on the table.

The British parallel — and a key difference

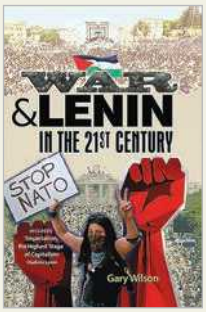
The U.S. today mirrors Britain in the 1930s. Britain emerged from World War I with its empire intact but its economic foundations eroded. The costs of maintaining global dominance soon outweighed the benefits. U.S. finance capital displaced Britain in Latin America and Asia, and anti-colonial movements surged. Britain's military might could not compensate for its economic decline.

Despite its formidable military and empire, Britain's inability to compete economically with the U.S. led to a loss of global leadership. The U.S. now faces a similar contradiction: an expanding military presence amid a weakening economic foundation. Unlike Britain, which could rely on U.S. support as a fallback, the U.S. has no such safety net.

The U.S. share of global output has steadily decreased, from over 50% in the early 1950s to 26% today. At the same time, China has rapidly advanced, leading global research in critical technologies and maintaining its position as the world's top manufacturer. The growing divergence between the U.S.'s shrinking economic base and its drive for military expansion is increasingly unsustainable.

No capitalist way out

Unlike Britain, the U.S. cannot offload its crises onto a stronger power. The coexistence of U.S. economic contraction and military expansion is fundamentally unsustainable. The only real solution lies in a socialist transformation — one that would resolve the acute contradictions of monopoly capitalism and redirect resources toward human needs, not endless war. #



'WAR & LENIN in the 21st Century'

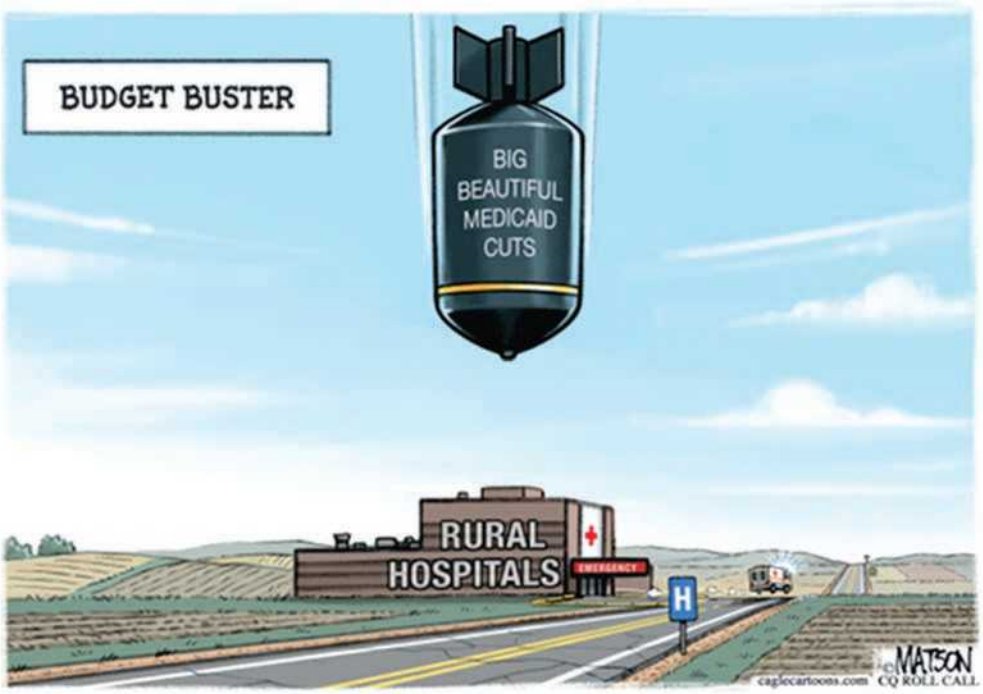
U.S. complicity in the Gaza genocide and military profiteering.

Written by Gary Wilson on the centenary of Vladimir Lenin's death
Lenin was the revolutionary leader of the Soviet Union and key contributor to Marxist theory. Book includes Lenin's work
: "**Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism**" in 1916.
It remains an influential critique of imperialism.

tinyurl.com/LeninAndWar

U.S. Pentagon bombs; China trades

By Sharon Black



China will eliminate tariffs on African countries

As global attention focused on the U.S. and Israeli conspiracy to bring about regime change in Iran (alongside the Pentagon's bombing that risked a regional war crisis), China and African countries were actively building alliances.

Just days before the attacks on Iran began, China announced that it would eliminate tariffs on imports from 53 African countries (except Eswatini, which does not currently maintain relations with Beijing), a move set to significantly strengthen China-Africa trade relations and create new opportunities for African exporters.

The announcement was made during the Ministerial Meeting of Coordinators on the Implementation of the Follow-up Actions of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), held from June 10 to 12, 2025, in Changsha, Hunan Province.

The forum brought together representatives from China, 53 African nations, and the African Union Commission to assess progress on commitments made at the 2024 Beijing Summit and to plan future cooperation.

Previously, zero-tariff treatment was available to only 33 African countries. This new announcement expands on the zero-tariff treatment for least developed countries (LDCs) that began on Dec. 1, 2024, which has already boosted exports from several African nations to China. This move opens up China's extensive market to African products.

China's broader strategy

China's declaration of near-zero tariffs is part of a broader strategy that includes support for green industries, e-commerce, artificial intelligence, and infrastructure development. This also includes advancing modernization and supporting the African Union's Agenda 2063.

The removal of tariffs on African goods will help to diversify Africa's export markets and reduce dependency on Western capitalist partners. It also signals a growing realignment in international trade partnerships, with Africa increasingly central to Beijing's global partnerships and solidarity.

China has been Africa's top trading partner for the last 15 years. In 2024, trade hit a record $295.6 billion. Q1 2025 saw bilateral trade at $72.6 billion, a 2.7% increase year-over-year. Africa's 2023 exports to China were valued at approximately $170 billion (£125 billion), highlighting its growing role in China's global trade.

Contrasts with the United States

Instead of lifting tariffs, the Trump administration has tightened the noose and imposed new tariffs, particularly on some of the poorest countries. Countries facing some of the highest tariffs include Lesotho (50%), Madagascar (47%), Mauritius (40%), Botswana (37%), Angola (32%), Libya (31%), and Algeria and South Africa (both 30%). These moves shred the "African Growth and Opportunity Act" (AGOA).

These actions threaten to disrupt supply chains and hinder economic growth. The impact is joblessness, hunger and general poverty for people living in these countries. And if the people in these regions rebel against economic strangulation, U.S. imperialism's answer is the stick: Africa Command (AFRICOM), a network of military bases on the continent of Africa. #

CHINA Celebrating 75 years of liberation

Tinyurl.com/USWarChina

October 1, 2024, marks the 75th anniversary of China's revolution, which liberated the nation from feudal oppression and imperialist control. Under the leadership of Mao Zedong, the Communist Party of China achieved what many deemed impossible — inspiring working and oppressed peoples worldwide. There has been significant progress for the masses and China's working class. Today, China boasts achievements in pollution reduction, and space exploration. The People's Republic has made significant strides in healthcare, education, and sports. At no point has U.S. monopoly capitalism adopted a hands-off approach toward the development of socialism in China. The maneuvers by U.S. imperialism have been increasingly more dangerous and now point in the direction of war. This book, **"The U.S. War Drive Against China: What it means for workers,"** aims to illuminate the growing dangers posed by a potential U.S. war against China

Jewish member of Iran's parliament says country has right to self-defense

By Lev Koufax

As the U.S. and Israel launched a violent campaign against Iran and its people, Homayoun Sameh, the Jewish member of Iran's parliament, spoke out against the Zionist escalation. Sameh has consistently been a strong supporter of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Palestinian resistance for his entire time in parliament. Iran is one of the few countries on the planet with a constitution that requires Jewish representation in its central legislative body.

In his statement condemning Israel's campaign against Iranian civilian, nuclear, and military infrastructure, Sameh spoke in support of Iran's legitimate right to self-defense. An interview from 2023 demonstrates Sameh's broader anti-zionist Judaism:

"In various parts of the world, followers of different religions, each from a different race, coexist peacefully. In Palestine itself, Jews, Christians, and Muslims often lived peacefully together throughout history, but it seems like the excessive demands of Israel have disrupted this historical order. Yes, the Israeli regime has sabotaged that peaceful coexistence.

"Of course, the overextending of Zionists is not related to Judaism. They have incorrect understandings of the teachings of Judaism. We here in Iran live peacefully alongside followers of other religions. Imam Khomeini, the founder of Iran's Islamic Revolution, and the Leader Ayatollah Khamenei have always stressed domestic unity. They do not only mean unity between Muslims or Shias in Iran. They mean unity among all Iranians, regardless of their religion or ethnicity."

Iranian Jewish Member of Parliament Homayoun Sameh has strongly denounced U.S.-Israeli aggression, and has long stood with Palestine.

Sameh's stance is an important reminder that not all Jewish people are defined by Zionism. Jews of conscience around the world will continue to stand up against the U.S. imperialist project known as Israel. We at Struggle-La Lucha stand in solidarity with MP Sameh and the Islamic Republic of Iran in its struggle against U.S. imperialist assault. #

Lev Koufax is an anti-Zionist Jewish activist.

Capitalist crisis and the attack on trans people

Continued from page 6

Melinda Butterfield: I just wanna comment on what Gregory raised about why trans people are the targets right now, or how it's happening. And I think he really hit on it with the focus on how they use the threat to children as a big way to influence people who wouldn't otherwise necessarily be hostile or even care about the issue so much, if they didn't have trans people in their own daily life.

But by making us into this bogey of corrupting children or stealing their children or something like that. Well, they did that also, particularly with gay men in an earlier period. And that fed a lot into the AIDS epidemic and how it was ignored by the official bodies and allowed to run rampant.

It also had to do with the scapegoating of Jewish people before the Holocaust. And also, as we talked about earlier, the lynching logic targeting Black men or people perceived as men having relations with white women, especially young white women and the daughters of the white supremacist class.

And this is a tactic that fascists use repeatedly when they're targeting. And this was true 30 or 40 years ago of gay men and it's true of trans people now. But when a movement pushes forward, breaking a lot of the boundaries of what's acceptable in society and pushing forward and winning people over and giving an example to people, that threatens the system.

You know, bodily autonomy is an issue that's shared by cisgender women, trans men, trans women, and non-binary people as well. Whether we're talking about reproductive rights or our right to alter our bodies and our sex and our gender. These are all things considered a threat to the patriarchal class basis of capitalism, which still relies on what Gregory talked about, this idea of passing on wealth through the father from generation to generation.

And you can see that with Trump and Elon Musk and the rest of these scumbags, how focused they are on that. And so, people who break that cycle, who show how rotten-ripe the capitalist family structure is, how ready it is to be undone and replaced with something better and more beautiful and more inclusive. That also makes us an easier target for scapegoating. #

Intersections & crossroads, from the struggle for self-determination

By Colby Byrd

Frantz Fanon says that all the native knows is that the colonizer, the oppressor, can come into their spaces to harass, beat, kidnap and kill them. And there is no one who comes to help, either during these brutal attacks or to bring relief afterwards. This is reality unless there is a broad fightback based in solidarity against the common enemy.

Right now, from coast to coast, populations find themselves subject to these beatings, kidnappings and killings. Across the country, immigrant communities, along with Indigenous communities, find themselves under attack by ICE agents.

These modern slave catchers and lynch mobs attack men, women and children when they are most vulnerable. They destroy the sanctuary and peace of schools, churches, hospitals, offices, work sites and homes in the name of white supremacy and to maintain the colonial occupation of these communities.

These roaming gangs hide their identities, dressing in plain clothes, wearing masks and sunglasses, to instill fear in the communities they target. This deception extends to their vehicles. Unmarked cars and trucks lurk on the roads alongside those of workers and people simply trying to live their lives.

As these fascist attacks escalate, communities are finding ways to keep themselves safe and fight back against ICE. Patrols and direct action to bust up ICE operations are methods that have proven successful in hindering the slave catchers trying to meet their quotas. These tactics – forms of community self-defense – pave the way for communities to be able to maintain their own safety without the need of police agencies, which ultimately prove incapable of doing anything but assisting in the occupation and oppression of the communities they are supposedly protecting.

There is a sentiment that the fight against ICE is not a fight that Black communities should take up in the Belly of the Beast. There are many reasons why this state-sponsored opinion and narrative are false and ultimately damaging to the struggle of Black Liberation in the United States. Firstly, Black immigrants are being deported at a higher rate than other POC and white counterparts.

Next, this idea that "well, they voted for it to happen" does nothing but further divide the working class of this country when we really need to work together. That sentiment upholds the colonial domination of both Black and Brown communities and does the state's job of divide and conquer based on race.

Also, these ICE attacks on immigrants have resulted in the kidnapping and disappearance of U.S. citizens simply because they "looked" like immigrants. This sets a dangerous precedent that will ultimately lead to these modern lynch mobs descending upon Black citizens and anyone they may deem fit for deportation.

Finally, the tactics employed by ICE are similar to the tactics employed by police departments to occupy and torment Black communities across the country.

In Baltimore City, Black neighborhoods are in constant contact with the occupying forces. Over 80% of Baltimore City officers live outside of the city and use their racist understandings of the city to enforce white supremacy in a predominantly Black city. These officers, and, by extension, city leadership, view Black communities as inherently "high crime." This designation leads to police following rules of engagement similar to those of the occupying U.S. grunt in Iraq or Afghanistan and the Israeli occupation soldier in occupied Palestine, Syria and Lebanon.

Recently, Baltimore Police have carried out killings of Black men under the "need"

Baltimore activists say 'stop war on Iran' &

June 13 – During rush hour, activists with the Peoples Power Assembly came to say "Stop U.S.-Israeli war on Iran!" Baltimore's motorists overwhelming showed support, honking continuously.
SLL photos.

June 14 – During the "No Kings" march, the Peoples Power Assembly opposed to U.S.-Israeli war on Iran. PPA organizer Sharon Black said, "This war's not in the interests of U.S. workers and the poor. People in this country can't afford food, health care, and shelter, and they're stealing more of our money to give to the banks and weapons' manufacturers. They're killing in our name while making us poorer!"

L.A. to Baltimore,

Bilal Abdullah, center, was a beloved "arabber" or produce vendor who used horse-drawn carts in Baltimore. He was killed by police on June 17, 2025.

to remove guns and armed individuals from the streets. Under the guise of "public safety," these orders erase the ability of the Black community to defend itself from attacks in the future. Across the country, violent crime is declining, yet police departments repetitively say they do not have enough officers to police their areas.

The decline in violent crime is not related to good policing but reflects a cultural shift in communities to squash longstanding beefs to find a sense of unity against the continued attacks by the state on their friends and family. In Baltimore City, there have been multiple police murders of Black citizens, justified because they "fit the description of an armed individual."

Some notable deaths include the killings of the 17-year-old father, William Gardner, on Aug. 5, 2024; 54-year-old Robert Phillip Nedd Jr., on Oct. 9, 2024; 26-year-old Jai Marc Howell on May 12, 2025; and recently the brutal execution of beloved arabber Bilal "BJ" Abdullah Jr. on June 17, 2025.

In each of these murders, the police announced that they would shoot and kill the men — no calls for de-escalation, no justice or trial, just straight to execution.

These killings and attacks on the ability for Black communities to defend themselves coincide with the attacks by other sections of the city government and private developers to displace Black communities in the name of gentrification.

The Black community in Baltimore is approaching a crossroads. The capitalist class will continue down its path to remove us and return us to slavery. Black and Brown immigrants are being deported to concentration camps out of the country, and our citizen Black brothers and sisters are killed or locked up. The time has come for the oppressed and working-class people of Baltimore to stand up to occupation, injustice, and apartheid – just like the Black Panthers of the 1960s-70s, the masses during the rebellions against police brutality from 2014-2020, the city of Los Angeles battling against occupation and slave catchers today in 2025, and the historic Palestinian Resistance fighting extinction at the hands of Zionism to this day.

All Power to the People!
Down with Occupation!
Up with Liberation!
Long Live oppressed and working people!
Long Live Baltimore!
Rest in Power to all Martyrs
of U.S. Imperialism!
Long Live International Solidarity!

'Stonewall means fight back'

BLACK TRANS LIVES MATTER!
Be yourself the world will adjust
SMASH IMPERIALISM CAPITALISM
NO PRIDE IN GENOCIDE
$$ for Gender-Affirming Healthcare, Not War
Peoples Power Assembly .org
Stonewall still means FIGHT BACK
LA LUCHA POR SOCIALISMO
STRUGGLE FOR SOCIALISM
SOCIALIST UNITY PARTY

June 14 – This marks the second straight year in Baltimore Pride's history that such a pro-Palestine contingent has participated. PPA activists held a large Palestine flag along with banners saying, "No Pride in Genocide, $$ for Gender-Affirming Healthcare, not War," "Stonewall Still Means Fight Back," and "Black Trans Lives Matter – 'Be yourself, the world will adjust' - Manabi Bandyopadhyay."

June 14 – Federal worker speaks at Baltimore "No Kings" rally. At least 5,000 filled Patterson Park. Many marchers carried signs for Palestine and chanted 'ICE out of Baltimore!' Local activists also responded with "No U.S.-Israeli War on Iran!" SLL photos

The populist smokescreen: How both parties serve monopoly

In May, the Struggle for Socialism Party (SSP) Los Angeles branch discussed the new book, "Against fascism: reclaiming populism's legacy for today's class struggle," compiled by Louisiana socialist Gregory Williams.

Following is part two of a presentation for the series of classes, given by John Parker on May 10. He is an organizer with SSP, the Harriet Tubman Center for Social Justice, and the Community Self Defense Coalition, which is confronting ICE on the ground in Los Angeles. The section of the book discussed in this presentation focuses on the 1991 Louisiana gubernatorial campaign of former Ku Klux Klan (KKK) leader David Duke.

Click here to follow the Harriet Tubman Center on Instagram, X, and Facebook, or donate to the center via Cash App, Venmo, and Patreon.

Part 1: They blame immigrants while corporations steal billions — sound familiar?

In 1991, David Duke was called a populist. Now, Trump is being called a populist. Neither of them is offering anything to empower the working class. We know from the Communist Manifesto that there are irreconcilable differences between the ruling class and the working class. But many academics will tell you that populists are fascists – they're this, they're that, but no, that's not true.

That's not the history of populism. Populism is another word for "peopleism." That's the definition used by the original populists. Is a Nazi a person of the people? Well, what people are you talking about? Because Nazis aren't for Black folks. They're not for our immigrant siblings. We need clarity because when they try to deny you the history of a word, they're also trying to deny the reality that's going on.

Another thing from this reading that jumped out is how the fascists promise to "drain the swamp," that they're going to get rid of all the corruption and entrenched power. Duke said this. He said he's for the working person, he's trying to stop the privileged folks.

And what does Trump say? He says he's going to drain the swamp, drain the swamp of the privileged folks. He doesn't like to say corporate folks or anything, but the privileged folks in government who are against the working people. He's going to drain the swamp. But look what he did when he went into office – Trump and Elon Musk. Musk's got the information to steal Social Security. And he's pocketed so much in profits with SpaceX and everything.

Here's another thing. When Duke was running for governor, he wasn't able to defeat the other candidate, Edwin Edwards. Edwards wasn't a fascist, but he didn't have anything to offer, either. There were economic problems – the wage problems, the theft of the people's money in the treasury, with corporate subsidies and giveaways, the taxes that were not being taken from the rich, all the ways that they were impoverishing the working class.

But the Democrats didn't have an answer, just like today. Kamala Harris and Joe Biden didn't have an answer for stopping the theft. The military is taking all the money away from health care and all those kinds of things. They didn't have an answer for that, and that's one of the reasons Kamala Harris lost.

Even though Duke didn't win, he came close. That was because the Democrats didn't have an answer for what was going on – the economic crisis, the systemic problems. They didn't want to have an answer for that.

You know, when you talk about Ukraine, it's interesting, the Democrats want to act like the saviors of self-determination for the people and freedom for the Ukrainian people, when the fact is that they were cooperating with BlackRock and others to subjugate and loot Ukraine. They're enabling fascism. And maybe they take it a little bit slower as they take over the wealth, the grains, all the stuff from Ukraine, privatizing it, and then taking it for U.S. monopoly capitalism.

Then Trump wins, and he does it much faster. And it's funny how they're calling him a populist. But other folks might look at the situation and think the Democrats are more like populists, because they're supposed to be for the working class, and aren't as overt in plundering Ukraine. But in fact, they weren't for the working class or Ukrainian people.

Trump is really bad because he's not for the Ukrainian people, either. In fact, he's worse. And like he said about Gaza, "it's mine." He's trying to take over the

Against fascism
Reclaiming POPULISM's legacy for today's CLASS STRUGGLE

Fascist movements are on the rise worldwide, attacking working-class and oppressed people.
The authors of this collection argue that capitalism's inherent dynamics are the cause, as with fascism in the 20th Century. Fascism is the capitalist class' response to a system in crisis. They use racism and misogyny, transphobia and homophobia to beat back the diverse working class while amassing more wealth.
But workers beat back fascism before and can do it again. Workers have the power to eliminate the root cause of fascism by transforming society with socialist revolution. This book is about getting us there. All the pieces in this book come from fighters in the revolutionary struggle. Most have been published in Struggle - La Lucha newspaper.

Topics include:
- Populism: progressive farmers' movement of 1890s
- Contemporary trans struggle
- The Silicon Valley-MAGA connection
- Legacy of Jena Six
- Abortion rights movement in South
- Real motives of right-wing governors
- Fight against KKK leader David Duke

Also: Vince Copeland's historic pamphlet
'SOUTHERN POPULISM AND BLACK LABOR'

capital

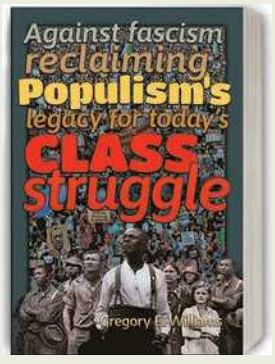
Los Angeles, June 10 – John Parker, coordinator of the Harriet Tubman Center for Social Justice and a member of the steering committee for the Community Self-Defense Coalition, speaks during the ongoing rebellion against ICE fascism.

land and capital, like in Ukraine. He's doing it at a much faster pace.

As for the white supremacy in Ukraine, people say, "well, that's not white supremacy, they're both white, right?" No. Hitler had a name for the people who were supposed to be inferior – maybe even not people, maybe animals – and in Ukraine, they call the Russian-speaking Ukrainians that. That includes the people in the eastern Donbass region. This is also white supremacy.

After the 2014 U.S.-backed coup, the Ukrainian government (now represented by Zelensky) passed a law restricting the use of the Russian language in state affairs and trying to drive it out of community life. And they've criminalized being in a communist or socialist organization. So, anyway, the racism, the fascist ideology of white supremacy, the Democrats have pushed that in spades in Ukraine.

The Democrats aren't going to stop fascism in this country or anywhere else. It's going to take the workers to stop fascism. They're not going to stop the genocide in Gaza. They've orchestrated it, and Biden passed the baton right on to Trump.



tinyurl.com/Populism-book

The ruling class, the Democrats, & Republicans – they're still very afraid of what the socialist movement can do. So, the Democrats act like they're against fascism, but they're enabling it now. It will take a strong movement of the working class to defeat it.

The Democrats are serving a purpose for the monopolies. What they're afraid of isn't fascism. They're afraid of socialism and communism. And in the 1960s, when things were going on the rise, it was harder for George Wallace and other fascist folks to carry out their aims. The Civil Rights and other movements pushed them back.

But it was also because of the international situation. There was the Soviet Union and revolutionary China, and they were helping to liberate Africa. These socialist countries provided military and other forms of support to the African liberation struggles. Two-thirds of Africa was liberated.

The ruling class, the Democrats, and Republicans – they're still very afraid of what socialist countries can do, or what the socialist movement can do. So, the Democrats act like they're against fascism, but they're enabling it now. It will take a strong movement of the working class to defeat it.

It's hard. You look at the news, and you're just depressed about all the horrible stuff going on. Just look at Gaza, and everything Trump does, you think, "How can he get away with this?" He's pardoning all these folks. He's pardoned assassins of Black folks, cops who've killed, and so you're seeing this stuff, you're like, "How can this happen? I don't know what to do."

But there's a lot of organizing going on. Usually, it's not talked about in any meaningful way in the corporate media, but the Community Self-Defense Coalition is being talked about. German and Japanese media came to talk about it. They found out about a lot of this from the Struggle-La Lucha newspaper.

But the interest right now, I mean, just today we had a large meeting, and a lot of people are new. The organization went from 60-something, and now it's about 80 organizations. And it's got functioning committees: patrol committee, outreach committee, fundraising committee. It's become very organized, very serious, and we've seen ICE folks get chased away.

So it's a real threat. It shows that there's a consciousness that just hasn't gone away, in spite of all the attacks and the economy on the decline. We're seeing more and more people come back and talk about trying to get involved. It's a hopeful time, and that's why I'm glad this book was written. We can get the history straight and get our plans and ideological orientation together. But the most important thing is to join an organization. And hopefully join a socialist organization – and hopefully the Struggle for Socialism Party. #

Iran resists

By Ali Abutalebi

Tens of thousands in Tehran protest against Israel and the U.S. following attacks.

June 19 marked the seventh day of Israeli strikes against Iran, with developments appearing to diverge from White House expectations.

Following targeted attacks on senior military commanders and nuclear scientists, along with strikes on nuclear and military facilities, Iran has regained operational control. The country launched its 'True Promise 3' operation without delay.

After initial disruption in the opening hours, Iran appointed replacement commanders and enhanced the effectiveness of its air defence systems. Iranian authorities also implemented security measures to identify suspected infiltrators who had allegedly used drones and other small aircraft to conduct covert operations within the country.

US and Israeli authorities likely did not anticipate an immediate collapse of the Iranian government through airstrikes alone. While both governments have made strategic miscalculations, it would be surprising if they genuinely believed a state could be toppled solely through aerial bombardment.

The apparent strategy seemed to rely on triggering civil unrest among opposition groups following the initial government disruption. This would have potentially created openings for trained mercenaries to initiate a secondary phase of operations. However, this scenario failed to materialise.

Instead, the majority of Iranians, particularly after reports emerged of civilian casualties from the attacks, responded with anger and solidarity. The civilian losses appear to have awakened a sense of national unity and patriotism among the population.

Trump's contradictory statements can be understood within this context of strategic miscalculation, alongside pressure from the Zionist authorities, as evidenced in social media posts and public commentary.

Trump's messaging has been inconsistent: one day stating he has no plans for US involvement in the conflict, the next threatening to consider declaring war against Iran unless it accepts 'unconditional surrender'.

On the other side, the televised message from Iran's Supreme Leader was clear and definitive: 'We do not accept imposed "peace", just as we did not accept imposed war, as we demonstrated during the Iraqi Ba'ath regime's invasion of Iran'.

This stance is reflected in the Iranian armed forces' retaliation and the positions taken by senior political officials.

Perhaps this explains why International Atomic Energy Agency Director General Rafael Grossi acknowledged that they have 'no proof of Iran's active plan to build nuclear weapons'.

Notably, Tulsi Gabbard, Director of National Intelligence, had previously made similar statements, though Trump recently indicated he dismisses them, saying he doesn't care about 'what she said'. This echoes the pretext used to invade Iraq: claims of 'weapons of mass destruction' that proved to be unfounded, similar to the discredited Nayirah testimony that became a scandal for the George W. Bush administration.

We could debate for hours about the reasons behind the current situation and the timing of direct attacks on Iran: external factors, internal catalysts, international dynamics, and more.

However, three points are clear:

First, Israel is not operating independently. The Israeli state functions as a settler colonial entity representing Western imperial interests in West Asia.

Second, the United States disregards international law, evidence, and public opinion when it calculates that the benefits of military action outweigh the costs.

Third, and most importantly in my view, this is not a religious or regional conflict between two competing powers. This represents a new phase of the 'New Middle East' plan, as reflected in the cover of a recent Time magazine issue. And the fragmentation of Iran is a main part of this plan. It builds upon earlier strategic frameworks, including the Yinon Plan (1980s) and 'A Clean Break: A New Strategy for Securing the Realm' (1990s), with backing from the Western bloc.

From this perspective, this constitutes a full-scale confrontation between the Global North and Global South, with Iran positioned on the front lines of Western imperialist aggression against national liberation movements throughout the Global South.

Based on this analysis, all revolutionary forces must unite behind this slogan: 'Hands Off Iran!'

And a message to our friends around the world: Iran resists, to the last person, the last bullet, the last breath.

Ali Abutalebi has been the executive director of Mazmoon Books since 2005. He founded the Iranian Campaign for Solidarity with Cuba, has worked as publication director at House of Latin America (HOLA), and authored several articles for the Iranian press and political websites, mostly focused on Latin American progressive movements. Ali published a book on Cuba titled Rest in Peace Ernesto.

This article was produced by Globetrotter.

From the rejection of anti-immigrant policies to the rejection of the Escensia Project

By Berta Joubert-Ceci

Last weekend, here in the U.S. colony of Puerto Rico, thousands of people took to the streets to protest the criminal policies of the local government. While this new administration is taking many actions against the interests of the people, two focal points of aggression have sparked outrage among our people. One, the massive attack against immigrants, and the other, the attempt to destroy our environment to further the interests of foreign millionaires.

In the northeast of the country, we gathered in front of Fortaleza, the governor's palace in Old San Juan, to demand that Governor Jeniffer González not comply with President Trump's directives to detain and deport immigrants. But despite the people's demands, anti-immigrant raids have increased. Federal agents go to the immigration offices where people legally process their residency permits and detain all the immigrants who were summoned that day. This is extremely outrageous and shameful.

The other massive demonstration was on the southwest tip of the island, where privatizers are developing a luxury residential project called Esencia, which includes an airport, schools, golf courses, million-dollar homes, and everything else the residents need so they do not have to leave this surreal enclave. It's a city within a city where foreign millionaires, who move to Puerto Rico to benefit from the odious laws that exempt them from paying taxes, can enjoy our tropical paradise without having to interact with the Puerto Rican people.

Photo: Brandon Cruz González / Center for Investigative Journalism.

March 7, 2025. Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico. Second day of public hearings for the Esencia project, which proposes a residential-tourism development on 81 plots in the Boquerón area.

And to build this idyllic Escencia, they are altering the coastal terrain, destroying ecosystems and even archaeological structures of the Indigenous Taíno people, in addition to disrupting the region's scarce water sources.

But the people continue to organize and oppose these inhumane policies. There's nothing left but to fight to win. #

Energía y huracanes

Continua de página 20

directos de la tormenta, sino la mayoría lentamente, por la falta de energía que alimentaba aparatos médicos y otros servicios esenciales para la vida.

Luego de ese desastre, el gobierno privatizó la energía, tanto la generación como la distribución. Esto, en vez de mejorar y abaratar el servicio según prometía la administración, lo encareció y peor aún, lo hizo menos resiliente por lo cual sufrimos semanalmente de apagones que además de dificultar la vida, dañan electrodomésticos por los cuales, la agencia privatizadora no se responsabiliza.

El gobierno es tan insensible e irresponsable que hasta reporteros del Centro de Periodismo Investigativo, siempre comprometidos con el bienestar del pueblo, han tenido que ir a los tribunales para exigir que se divulgue el Plan de Emergencias que tengan las agencias gubernamentales pertinentes. Sin embargo, hasta el día de hoy, el gobierno rehúsa contestar.

Es inconcebible y criminal cómo los gobiernos locales coloniales de los dos partidos que se alternan para administrar, han abandonado totalmente su obligación de lograr el bien común de la población que les eligió y han ignorado los reclamos de organizaciones como Queremos Sol y otras que han presentado proyectos viables de energía solar, y que sean públicos. Sin embargo, el gobierno opta por alejarse de la energía renovable barata que tenemos en abundancia, y privatiza y adopta los combustibles fósiles que tenemos que importar a precios muy altos para el bolsillo y el medioambiente.

Por eso, aquí, la lucha continúa.

Desde Puerto Rico para Radio Clarín de Colombia, les habló Berta Joubert-Ceci

Del rechazo a políticas antiinmigrante, al rechazo del Proyecto Esencia

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

El fin de semana pasado, salieron a las calles de esta colonia, miles de personas en rechazo a las políticas criminales del gobierno local. Y si bien son muchas las acciones que esta nueva administración está cometiendo en contra de los intereses del pueblo, fueron particularmente dos los ejes protagónicos agresivos que han despertando mucha indignación en nuestro pueblo. Uno, la gran arremetida en contra de las y los inmigrantes, y el otro, el intento de destruir nuestro medioambiente para favorecer los intereses de millonarios extranjeros.

En el noreste del país nos reunimos frente a Fortaleza, el palacio de la gobernación en el Viejo San Juan, para exigir a la gobernadora Jeniffer González que no acate las directivas del presidente Trump de detener y deportar a las personas inmigrantes. Pero pese a los reclamos del pueblo, las redadas antiinmigrantes han aumentado. Los agentes federales van hasta las oficinas de inmigración donde las personas procesan legalmente sus permisos de residencia, y detienen a todos los inmigrantes que fueron sido citados ese día. Algo extremadamente indignante y vergonzoso.

La otra manifestación masiva fue en el extremo suroeste de la isla donde los privatizadores están desarrollando un proyecto residencial de lujo llamado Esencia que incluye aeropuerto, escuelas, campos de golf, viviendas millonarias, y todo lo necesario para no tener que salir de ese entorno surreal. Es una ciudad dentro de la ciudad donde millonarios extranjeros, que se mudan a Puerto Rico para beneficiarse de las odiosas leyes que les libran de pagar impuestos, vivan disfrutando de nuestro paraíso tropical sin tener que relacionarse con el pueblo boricua.

Foto: Brandon Cruz González | Centro de Periodismo Investigativo

La Colectiva Feminista en Construcción canta "¡Esencia no va!" junto a otros grupos comunitarios.

Y para la construcción de esta idílica Esencia, están alterando el terreno costero, destruyendo ecosistemas y hasta estructuras arqueológicas taínas, además de alterar las fuentes acuíferas que son escasas en esa región.

Pero el pueblo continúa organizándose y oponiéndose a estas políticas inhumanas. No queda más que luchar para vencer.

Desde Puerto Rico, para Radio Clarín de Colombia, les habló Berta Joubert-Ceci.

Energía y huracanes

Un hombre que vive en San Isidro, fuera de San Juan, en su barrio después del huracán María en 2017.

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

Ya estamos a finales de junio, y todavía en esta colonia que está en la ruta de los temporales del Atlántico, el pueblo no sabe cual es el plan del gobierno ante las posibles interrupciones del servicio eléctrico en este archipiélago en caso de un huracán.

Tenemos que recordar que en el 2017, cuando nos azotó el huracán María, todo el sistema energético colapsó, incluyendo los servicios esenciales de agua y telefonía. Hubo lugares que estuvieron sin estos servicios casi un año. Más de 3,000 personas fallecieron, no por ahogamiento o por impactos

Continua a página 19

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